

## Horrors 771

### Chapter 771: Extra Students

Wang Xiaoming's meaning was very clear. The large dog that the girl mentioned was not a dog at all but the missing students. This whole family was crazy.

"I know what you're trying to say, but did you notice something weird?" Chen Ge dropped his voice to a whisper. "Why does she look at me differently from when she looks at you? That pair of eyes filled with pure evil was focused on me. Does she know me?"

"Now is not the time to think about that, Xiao Lin. We need to leave now!" Wang Xiaoming grabbed Chen Ge and prepared to make a run for it, but at that moment, footsteps came from inside the bedroom, and soon, the door was opened. The girl wore pink pajamas, and she held a long ring of keys in her hand. "Found it."

"Okay, we will go to the maintenance room now."

Of course, they were going to leave, but before that, Chen Ge wished to obtain more useful things. He reached out to take the girl's keys, but the latter took one large step back. "Even though I have the spare key, my dad warned me from getting close to the room at the deepest part of the corridor and forbade me from giving the key to strangers."

After Chen Ge revealed his purpose, the girls also started to show her fangs. From the beginning, she had never intended to help them, but other than herself, no one knew what her real goal was.

"Both me and this student know Mr. Bai, so how can we be strangers? If you don't feel like going with us, why don't you give me the keys? After I open the door, I'll come back to return the keys to you," Chen Ge said calmly. His expression was serene; it was difficult to read his thoughts from his facial expression.

"No, my dad said that the keys cannot be given to strangers. Only family can use them." The girl's voice softened. She made it sound like she was being bullied. Chen Ge frowned slightly—he felt like the girl was hinting at the fact that she wished for him to be her family.

After a quick contemplation, Chen Ge squatted down again. He pinched the girl's cheek. "We are friends now, the best of friends. No matter what, we can rely on each other like family. If you're bored because you're alone, the two of us will come to keep you company." Chen Ge was a careful thinker. He knew that some ghosts' obsessions were like a curse. Once he gave them his real name, they would stick to him forever, so he dragged Wang Xiaoming down with him without much hesitation.

"The two of you?" The girl's eyes were glued onto Chen Ge. From the beginning, she had never laid her eyes on Wang Xiaoming. This was one of the things that had struck Chen Ge as strange. The girl stood at the bedroom door. She was still hesitating when the sound of a heavy object knocking against a wooden board came from inside Bai Ling's bedroom!

The bedroom door was not closed tight. The 'dog' inside the room seemed to have confirmed that the visitors this time were not acted by Bai Ling and Mr. Bai from Chen Ge's conversation with the girl.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

“Okay, that’s a promise.” The girl’s smile was like a blooming flower. “Wait a minute, the big dog is acting up again. We mustn’t let it attract the other people’s attention.”

The girl’s gaze lingered on Chen Ge for a long time before she turned to head back into the bedroom. The sound of banging slowly dwindled. Then, several minutes later, the girl walked out from the bedroom. Her expression was normal, but she had changed into a new set of pajamas.

“I’ll go with you. You open the door and look for your things while I wait for you outside.” There was an indescribable excitement in the girl’s voice. She jogged through the living room and waited at the entrance. Chen Ge and Wang Xiaoming moved to follow her.

“Xiao Lin.” Wang Xiaoming pointed at the girl and then waved his hand as if reminding Chen Ge not to get too close to the girl. Chen Ge nodded silently. He was prepared to grab the tools and run.

The girl held the doorknob and started to turn it. She had just opened the door a sliver when the door was suddenly pulled outward!

“There’s someone outside the door!” Chen Ge jumped from the shock. Thankfully, with the training from the black phone, his reaction speed was far faster than a normal person’s. Just as the doorknob was about to slip from the girl’s hand, he ran forward and slammed into the door, knocking it shut!

BANG!

The sound of door closing echoed down the corridor. In this silence, the sudden boom was very scary.

“Xiao Ling, I am Uncle Zhang from next door. There have been sounds coming from your place, so I came over to take a look. If you need any help, please open the door.” A man’s voice came from outside.

Chen Ge lowered his voice and leaned against the girl’s ear to whisper, “Do not open the door no matter what. Would he eavesdrop outside the door for so long if he wished to help? Furthermore, he was trying to pull the door open earlier, which proves that he wished to barge in. This man is lying to you.”

The girl, Bai Ling, did not expect someone to be hiding outside her room, but there was no fear in her eyes, only a trace of alertness and dissatisfaction.

“Go and hide inside my father’s bedroom. Remember to lock the door.” The big dog was in her bedroom, and her father’s bedroom was the innermost room. She jogged back to open the lock. Bai Ling urged Chen Ge to hurry back. The girl did not seem to care about Wang Xiaoming at all—she merely wished to hide Chen Ge.

“Quick, get in here.” Chen Ge was not going to leave his partner behind, so he pulled Wang Xiaoming into the room as well. The bedroom door closed again. Wang Xiaoming leaned against the door and could hear his heart pounding in his chest.

“There is someone else hiding outside the door. Thankfully, we didn’t run out and escape earlier, or else we would have been caught!”

“The person outside the door is probably the teacher who saw in the corridor. He was using a flashlight and almost discovered us,” Chen Ge replied absent-mindedly because his focus was on the room that he was in. This was Mr. Bai’s bedroom! He might find what he needed there!

“Just now, it was Bai Ling who used her key to open the lock, so in other words, without going through her, we would not normally be able to access this room!” Chen Ge did not panic even though things were not looking optimistic. If anything, he thought that he was being lucky. He looked through the drawers and shelves and soon discovered something.

“Student’s Registration File? Why would something like this be found inside a teacher’s drawer?” Chen Ge flipped through it at top speed. This was a normal file—the only special thing was that when he had still been in Mr. Bai’s class, he had counted only seventeen other people, including Mr. Bai, but in this file, there were the pictures of twenty-one students.

When Chen Ge woke up inside the classroom, he had memorized the faces of all his classmates. It was something that he had done out of caution, but that would come in handy now.

Comparing the file and the memory in his mind, Chen Ge soon realized that something was wrong.

## **Chapter 772: Maintenance Room**

*At the time, the register that Mr. Bai was holding stated very clearly that there were supposed to be seventeen people in total, combining both students and teacher in the class. However, when I made the calculation myself, I realized that there were already seventeen students in the class! In other words, there was an extra student! The correct student number should be sixteen! It’s unclear whether Mr. Bai made a careless mistake or purposely ignored this due to certain reason!*

The student’s registration file came with pictures. Comparing them with the memory in his mind, Chen Ge soon filtered out five cases from the file, these were the five Chen Ge did not encounter in the class.

*Five people are missing from my class?*

Chen Ge instantly related that to another detail. There were exactly five human shadows on the walls in his Bedroom 413.

*Is that a coincidence, or were the five who have gone missing all transformed into the shadows on the wall?*

Looking through the file again, he soon discovered another problem.

*How come there is no record on Xiao Lin?*

He had looked through it twice, but Chen Ge could not find the case file on Lin Sisi.

*The extra person in the classroom is Lin Sisi? Am I the one unaccounted for?*

Chen Ge thought about the content inside Xiao Lin’s diary that he had found at Nightmare Academy. Because Xiao Lin liked to prank people, the rest of the classmates had ganged up to play a joke on him.

"I think I get it now." Chen Ge did not utter the rest of his thoughts. He felt like Lin Sisi probably represented not an actual person but an identity. No one there was really his friend, but at the same time, he shared an unknown relationship with the rest of them.

*Without any aid, without any clues, and everyone I encounter is my enemy. That is already hard enough, but on top of that, I have to face the 'rules' of this school filled with despair. Is this the difficulty of a four-star mission?*

Chen Ge's hand that gripped the file tightened involuntarily, and he subconsciously turned to look at his shadow, but there was no change to it.

The truth was often the cruelest and heaviest. Chen Ge took a slow breath.

*It'll be fine. At least, this is not a dead end. I still have a chance at survival.*

Everyone at that school was concocting their own plans. Each of them had their own goal to achieve, and this was a chance for Chen Ge!

Memorizing the faces of these five students, Chen Ge shoved the whole file into his bag. He continued searching inside the bedroom. Meanwhile, Wang Xiaoming leaned against the door, eavesdropping on the situation outside with a worried expression on his face.

"Xiao Ling, open the door. I'm worried about you. I'm afraid that some bad guy has entered your room."

"It's just a little pet that my dad got me. It escaped from its cage, and I was running around trying to catch it."

"Your father gifted you a small pet?"

"Yes, Uncle Zhang, please don't tell that to anyone else. I promise it will not affect anyone."

"Oh! Bai definitely has crossed the line this time. The school rules state very clearly that we are not allowed to keep pets. Oh well, I'll pretend to ignore it this time, but you'd better deal with that thing as soon as possible."

"Okay, Uncle Zhang, promise you won't tell anyone about this."

"Don't worry, why would I tell other people about this?"

The sound from the living room disappeared. Then Bai Ling ran over to open the bedroom door. "He's gone."

"Could he still be hiding behind the door?" Chen Ge shifted the bag behind him. He was worried that the girl might notice that his bag had become fuller. In that short period of time, Chen Ge had searched the entire bedroom. Other than the student's registration file, he had found a teacher's ID, a canteen card, and a library card. He carried all of them with him, not knowing whether they would prove useful or not.

"I believe he has gone. Mr. Zhang is a good person; he suffers from paranoia, that's all." Bai Ling led Chen Ge and Wang Xiaoming back to the living room. She had Chen Ge look through the peephole. After confirming that there was no one outside, she opened the door. "Let's go. I'll wait for you outside the maintenance room."

The lights in the corridor were off. It was dim, and the darkness appeared to hide many dangers. Chen Ge made a shushing gesture. He turned off all the lights in Bai Ling's room. After his eyes got used to the darkness, he walked out from the room.

"Be careful." Chen Ge knew how to make use of his advantage. With his Yin Yang Vision, in the dark, his sight and senses were much better than those of others. The three moved to the end of the corridor. Bai Ling took out the ring of keys from her pajamas pocket and tried them one by one.

In the silence, any sound would be amplified. Wang Xiaoming leaned against the door, looking around nervously. Chen Ge kept his eyes on Bai Ling, afraid that she might set a trap against them. On the fourth trial, the key finally stuck into the keyhole, and the lock gave.

*A yellow-colored copper key.*

Narrowing his eyes, he felt that the key looked very familiar. He reached into his bag to look for the ring of keys that he had found inside Xiao Lin's bag. When he first obtained the ring of keys, Chen Ge had been wondering why Xiao Lin would have so many keys.

*This is one of the keys on Xiao Lin's key ring!*

Chen Ge had no idea where Xiao Lin had gotten this key, but this was good news for now. When he encountered a locked door in the future, he could try to open it with the keys in Xiao Lin's bag. Perhaps one might work.

*Assuming Xiao Lin is an identity, does the presence of this key point to the fact that Xiao Lin has once been to this maintenance room?*

"Why are you spacing out? Get your things now, or else some other people might come." Wang Xiaoming pointed at Bai Ling quietly as if reminding Chen Ge that Mr. Bai might come home soon.

Chen Ge stopped wasting time. He entered the maintenance room, but what he saw was something that he did not anticipate. The room was indeed filled with tools but not those used for fixing machines. They were tools related to human anatomy, like the gum separator used by dentists, a scalpel, syringes, medical threads, an artery clamp, and so on.

*Am I in the wrong room?*

In the middle of a room was a table with a white cloth. There was something protruding from underneath the cloth. The four corners of the room had four mirrors covered in white cloth. The racks were clean, and many tools that Chen Ge could not recognize could be found.

"Is this the maintenance room?"

"Yes," Wang Xiaoming and Bai Ling answered in unison. When they stepped into this room, their faces turned paler.

"This maintenance room... is probably not used to fix electrical appliances or furniture." Chen Ge stopped wasting time. He moved down the racks. Certain things could not be changed, so he could only do his best given the circumstances. "It's fine. The tool used to pull out teeth can be used to pull out the nails."

The maintenance room was small. There was no dirt or blood as if someone cleaned it daily.

After placing all the tools that he could use into the bag, Chen Ge walked to stand before the first mirror.

### **Chapter 773: Red Mirror**

The mirrors sat in the four corners of the room, and each of them was hidden behind a white cloth. One could only see the bottommost part.

“Why would they place mirrors inside the maintenance room? They are placed almost ceremoniously around the room...” Whether the maintenance room was used to fix living humans or furniture, it should have no use for mirrors either way. “After they have corrected whatever they’re fixing, do they place it before the mirrors to be admired first?”

Before Bai Ling or Wang Xiaoming could say anything, Chen Ge reached out to pull away the white cloth that covered the mirrors.

“Do not touch that!” Bai Ling’s warning came a little late. The white cloth fell to the ground, and the three were given an unobstructed view of the thing behind the cloth.

“Is this paint?” Chen Ge stood before the mirror and used his hand to touch its surface. The smooth surface had a coat of something that appeared like red paint. It ruined the purpose of the mirror, and it could no longer reflect anything.

Chen Ge used his nails to scratch at the surface. The red coat seemed to have grown out of the mirror itself. It had melted into the mirror and could not be removed so easily.

“Mirror...” Chen Ge was suddenly reminded of something. This was the first time that he had come across a mirror after waking up inside the classroom. Mirrors were common in the real world, but they seemed to be a kind of taboo at this school.

*There was no mirror in Room 413, Xiao Lin did not carry any mirror on him inside his bag, there was no mirror inside the dormitory manager’s room, and even Bai Ling and Mr. Bai’s room did not have a mirror!*

Chen Ge quickly moved to proceed to remove all white cloths from the mirrors. Chen Ge realized that all four mirrors had distinctive shapes and appearances—they seemed to have been moved there from different places.

*The maintenance room’s key should be with the maintenance worker and the teachers. Normally, people rarely come here. The school has placed these four mirrors here because they do not wish for people to come across them on a regular basis.*

The coat of red paint was left on the surface of the four mirrors. Even when he stood before the mirror, he could not see his own reflection.

*The mirrors are practically useless. Is it because they are afraid of seeing themselves in the mirror?*

Chen Ge did not understand why, but he made a mental note of this. When he came across another mirror in his journey, he would pay it more attention. Perhaps a chance of escaping this place could be found from it.

“Xiao Lin, have you got everything? It’s time to go.” Wang Xiaoming kept urging Chen Ge. As time moved forward, the young man became more and more agitated.

“Wait a moment.” Chen Ge studied the mirrors in the four corners closely. The first mirror did not have a frame but instead was surrounded by clear cellophane tape. It appeared like it had been yanked out from a closet. The second mirror was small. Someone had probably taken it from a make-up table, something that did not appear like it should belong at a school. The third mirror had the term ‘laboratory’ written on it, so it probably came from there. The last mirror had a wooden frame, and a series of number was etched into the frame—413. Underneath the numbers, at the edge where the frame connected to the wall, there was a person’s name—Lin Sisi.

“Why would this last mirror have Xiao Lin’s name on it? Could it be that this mirror was taken from Xiao Lin’s room?” Chen Ge had a feeling that things were not that simple. Xiao Lin’s file could not be found on the student register, so why would the name Lin Sisi be on the mirror?

Squatting down before the last mirror, Chen Ge looked at the mirror’s surface, which was tempered. It was unclear whether it was his own shadow that fell on the mirror, a trick of the light, or an issue with the angle, but Chen Ge felt like he saw someone inside the mirror.

*Lin Sisi’s name is on the mirror, so if there is really someone inside the mirror, could that person be the real or the previous Lin Sisi?*

He used his hand to touch the surface. The chill and eeriness were like he was touching a ‘blood door’ that was slowly opening.

The mirror before him seemed to transform into a python with a gaping maw. Chen Ge resisted the discomfort to grab at the edge of the mirror. When his fingers landed on the back of the mirror, he found that the back of the mirror was uneven, like something was carved there.

*It felt like I was almost swallowed.*

Slowly turning the mirror around, when Chen Ge saw the back side of the mirror, he took a deep, cold breath. The back of the mirror was covered with the name Lin Sisi, painted in bright red paint!

The names covered the back of the mirror. The creepy part was that the names came from different handwriting.

“Wang Xiaoming, help me turn the mirrors around. Check and see if they are all covered with human names on their backs.” Chen Ge carried the fourth mirror with both of his hands while signaling for Wang Xiaoming to move the other mirrors. However, he waited for a long time, but Wang Xiaoming stood frozen at where he was.

Chen Ge turned back to look and realized that both Wang Xiaoming and Bai Ling were staring at the mirrors inside the maintenance room like they were possessed. Their bodies were leaning forward, and they stood on their toes. Green veins surfaced on their pale faces, and hatred as well as endless resentment swirled in their eyes.

“What’s wrong with the two of you?” The mirrors were painted with this unknown red substance, and they could no longer reflect anything, but it felt like Wang Xiaoming and Bai Ling were still able to see the mirrors’ reflections.

*Do they see a different mirror than what I see, or can they feel a type of presence from within the mirrors? Bai Ling’s father warned her from getting too close to the maintenance room. Could it be due to these few mirrors?*

Bai Ling and Wang Xiaoming were Chen Ge’s temporarily allies, but he was afraid that the two might suddenly turn on him, so he quickly picked up the white cloths and placed them back on the mirrors.

After the mirrors were hidden from view, Wang Xiaoming and Bai Ling gradually calmed down. The veins on their faces disappeared, and the resentment in their eyes slowly dissipated. They did not seem to remember the strange phenomenon that overtook them, like everything was just Chen Ge’s imagination.

*It appears like the mirror can reflect their true self.*

There were very few mirrors around the school, and these remaining four mirrors had their surfaces ruined by this red paint. Chen Ge was curious. If Wang Xiaoming and the rest were given a direct look at an unaltered mirror, what would happen to them?

“We’ve already gotten what we came for, let’s go.” Chen Ge moved rather unwillingly away from the maintenance room. If not for the humongous size of the mirror, he would have carried one with him. What Chen Ge needed to do next was find a way to hurry back to Room 413, remove the nails on the walls, and persuade the remaining shadows.

“Xiao Lin.” It was unknown when Wang Xiaoming managed to slither behind Chen Ge. He pulled on Chen Ge’s arm lightly. “Based on our previous promise, you’d better remember to stop at the canteen to accompany me to buy some food.”

“Is the canteen still open so late at night?” Chen Ge said with a smile as his eyes moved between Bai Ling and Wang Xiaoming.

“Of course, you’ll see once you follow me there. There is a stall that sells very delicious food.” Saliva dripped out of Wang Xiaoming’s lips, and it made him look very scary.

“You cannot leave! Didn’t you promise to stay? I said I would only bring my family here! You have to follow me back!” Bai Ling hugged Chen Ge with both of her arms. She refused to surrender Chen Ge to Wang Xiaoming.

“She’s right, so what should I do?” Chen Ge purposely acted like he was troubled. Looking at the two who held claim over him quite literally, he said, “How about the two of you decide between yourselves where I should go?”

#### **Chapter 774: Good Teammate, Gone Like That**

“He gave me his promise first!” Wang Xiaoming glared at Bai Ling and raised his voice.



"But you are now in the staff dormitory. Without my help, you would have gotten into the maintenance room," Bai Ling retorted with a sweet smile on her face. Her hands were still curled around Chen Ge's arm. "Come over to my place. I still have many things I want to tell you."

Chen Ge was squeezed between the two. He knew better than anyone else what was happening. The big dog being reared at Bai Ling's home was the missing student. If he followed Bai Ling home, he would end up as the girl's plaything. It would not be too safe to follow Wang Xiaoming either. The man had been saying that there was delicious food at the canteen, but he did not mention what kind of food it was. If he really did follow Wang Xiaoming to the canteen, Chen Ge had a feeling that he would end up as the food himself.

Everyone in that school had their own evil agenda, but they would never show it directly. Both of those choices would lead to certain death—the difference was how he would die. Looking at the two fighting over him, Chen Ge did not push them away.

With one hand over Wang Xiaoming's shoulder and the other caressing Bai Ling's head, Chen Ge acted touched. "You both are my good friends. One is reliable and trustworthy, and the other is kind and cute; I really can't find it within myself to reject either one of you!"

He hesitated for a while before squatting down to pick up Bai Ling. "I will follow my friend to the canteen to find something to eat first. Later, I'll come back, okay?"

"No! You cannot go with him!" The girl's sweet expression immediately froze. Small lumps started to swell on her body, and she seemed to have grown slightly taller.

"Okay then." Chen Ge turned to Wang Xiaoming with a helpless expression. "Brother, how about you go to the canteen ahead of me? I will stay to accompany this girl for a while. She is probably too afraid to stay home alone."

"Have you lost your mind? When Mr. Bai returns and sees you in his room, he will send you to detention!" Wang Xiaoming was stronger than Bai Ling. He pulled Chen Ge over to his side. "Follow me! We will go to the canteen!"

Chen Ge was dragged by Wang Xiaoming to the door, but Bai Ling refused to let go. "But you promised me!"

The transformation of the little girl became more pronounced. Her eyes sunk, and tears flowed out of her eyes. The tears cut open her face like a sharp knife. The monster that was hiding inside the girl was showing itself.

"You're making this very difficult for me." Chen Ge flung both of their hands away. "You two can discuss this among yourselves. I will wait outside the door for you. Come and find me when you reach a decision."

After dropping that announcement, Chen Ge opened the door and left. Once he closed the door, the sound of a heavy thud came from inside the room. It sounded like someone's head was slammed into the wall.

"It's so surprising that I'm so popular here. There are so many students at this school, so why are they so hung up over me?" Chen Ge memorized what his two friends had said. Once he exited the maintenance

room, he did not pause for even a second. He grabbed his bag and raced directly out of the staff dormitory. The moment that Chen Ge stepped out of the staff dormitory, a voice came from the darkened corridor behind him. It seemed to be calling Xiao Lin's name.

However, the biggest difference between Chen Ge and the other protagonists of horror movies was that he would never be curious about things that might kill him. It was unimportant who the person that called after him was; the important thing was that he had obtained what he needed, and it was time to begin the next step of his plan.

"I need to move faster. If Bai Ling survives, she won't know my exact location, but if it's Wang Xiaoming who survives, everything will be much more complicated. This deskmate knows my room location and will definitely return to the dormitory to find me." Chen Ge did not turn around once as he jogged all the way back to the male dormitory. "There is not even one person to be seen in this school after dark. No matter how strict the rules are, shouldn't there be some guards patrolling the compound?"

It was a completely different atmosphere at the night school before and after the lights went out. The lights were probably some kind of boundary line there. "Staying here for too long will lead to some bad things, and staying in the dark for too long will attract the unwanted attention of monsters. There sure are many rules that can cause death here."

Having many death-causing rules was not that scary; the thing that made it scariest was the fact that no one had told Chen Ge what the rules were. Even though he had been exploring the place for so long, Chen Ge was not completely confident that he had correctly deduced all the rules.

Chen Ge did not stop to catch his breath as he jogged back to the male student dormitory. He did not enter the building directly but hid behind one of the big trees next to the entrance. He used his Yin Yang Vision to scout out the area first.

The entrance was not closed shut, but the dormitory manager that Wang Xiaoming was afraid of appeared to have gone to sleep already.

"Something's not right. When Wang Xiaoming and I left this place earlier, I made sure to close the entrance door, but now, it's open. It can only mean that someone has been in or out of this place during the period that we were out. The school forbids students from wandering about after dark, so the person who arrived here was either a member of staff or the dormitory manager." Chen Ge ran to the other side of the road to switch to a different vantage point. He saw something new.

There was a pair of brown leather shoes sitting in the corner of the first-floor corridor. Someone appeared to be hiding there!

"If I'm not mistaken, Mr. Bai wears a pair of shoes just like that. Is he the one who's hiding there?" The more Chen Ge thought about it, the more he felt that it was likely. He had been in the staff dormitory, but he had not run into Mr. Bai.

"I sure was lucky. He has been waiting for me at the student dormitory, and that gave me the perfect opening to sneak inside his room."

This kind of dangerous action caused Chen Ge's heart to race. "It's a good thing that Mr. Bai is hiding here. Wang Xiaoming knows that I will return to the bedroom, so if he survives the encounter at the

maintenance room, he will rush back here. If he's careless, he will run headfirst into Mr. Bai, and that will solve one of the loose ends."

Chen Ge would run into more danger if he wished to continue his exploration of the school, but he had handled this situation nicely. While he attracted danger, he kept shifted the focus on him to something else. This made it so that even though he was in constant danger, he was not in mortal danger.

"For now, I can't return to the student dormitory. I need to change up my plan somehow." Chen Ge decided to go to the art room first. From Xiao Lin's notebook, he had found out that the first student who died in Room 413 was an art student.

"It's fine if you want to use me as a scapegoat, but you have to clarify some things first. If the discussion fails, I will personally hammer back the nails that you've put on me one by one." Still hiding in the shadow, Chen Ge silently retreated. He did not have a map and had to avoid the different danger, so he walked very slowly.

"I'm at such a disadvantage because I don't know anything about the different scenarios at this school. I need a real partner that I can trust."

After taking a long detour, Chen Ge came to the laboratory building. There were few buildings on the night school's campus, and he believed the art room might be inside this building. In any case, that was the likeliest possibility.

## **Chapter 775: Who Is Following Me?**

The night school's laboratory building was not tall by any means; it only had four floors in total. Instead of saying that it was a location for the students to conduct experiments, it was more like a tacked-on location to fulfil the appearance of being an educational establishment. This building was not far from the student dormitory. So, if Chen Ge made too much noise there, it would be heard clearly by those residing in the male student dormitory.

Chen Ge silently sought his way to the building entrance. He looked through the glass door into the building for a while. There was a dark corridor and numerous rooms with closed doors. Looking in from the outside, there was nothing that particularly stood out about the place.

"Everything looks normal." Chen Ge had a standard in his heart used to gauge the scary factor of a scenario. The lowest standard was for those scenarios where the scenario itself was not scary but the characters or events that transpired at the scenario were very scary. The highest standard was reserved for scenarios where both the setting and the characters possessed incredible danger, and a careless mistake could lead to your death.

Obviously, this school belonged to the highest standard. Therefore, Chen Ge reminded himself not to be fooled by a seemingly peaceful appearance. "The stiller the water on the surface, the deeper it runs."

Resting a moment before entering the building, Chen Ge adjusted his breathing. When he was ready, Chen Ge moved forward to give the entrance door a light shove. The glass door of the laboratory was not locked. With a light push from Chen Ge, the door slid open practically soundlessly.

A chilling draft came from inside the building. Staring down the dark corridor, the hair on Chen Ge's arms stood on end. "Something does not feel right here."

Chen Ge had conducted many Trial Missions, and a normal scenario would not have caused him such a feeling.

Squinting his eyes, Chen Ge studied his surrounding carefully. "Things look like how they should be in real life. There is nothing that stands out, so how come I have this disconcerting feeling in my heart?"

The corridor was laid with clean and slippery tiles, and the walls were painted white. The place was spotless. There was no graffiti to be seen, and this place was very well kept, but somehow, it made Chen Ge feel incredibly uncomfortable.

"What is the problem?" An instinctual sense of fear curled around Chen Ge's heart. He entered the building with as much care as he could manage. The moment that his hand let go of the doorknob, the glass doors slid back into place.

"Not good!" Without any hesitation, Chen Ge instantly turned around to grab the doorknob. He pulled with all his might, and the doors swung open easily. He was not trapped inside the building.

"This is different from what I thought." When the doors slid shut behind him, Chen Ge had thought that his escape route had been cut off and that he had been quarantined inside the building, but that was not the truth. "They allow me to escape if I want to, or does this mean that they know I will not be able to survive even if they allow me the freedom of getting out the front door?"

Chen Ge let go of the door and watched as the glass doors closed. So far, everything that Chen Ge had encountered inside this building could not have been more normal. Any other person would have doubted their conviction and lowered their guard, but Chen Ge was not that kind of person. "I need to find what is causing me the anxiety as soon as possible. I don't care whether it is a person, a ghost, or something else."

Carrying the bag, Chen Ge entered the corridor with his back pressed against the wall. The interior of the building was very small, but it contained many labs. They were for different subjects, and every classroom had a different name on it.

"All the labs and activity rooms for the night school should be in this building. That means that I will probably find the art room here." Chen Ge's footsteps echoed down the corridor as he walked down the path alone at night. This pressure was hard to describe, but every single second was like tortuously long. Chen Ge tried to open the classroom doors as he walked down the corridor. He had lost count of the doors that he had tried, but the majority of them were locked. Only a small handful were left unlocked, but even so, the doors could not be opened. They were too heavy to move as if someone had placed a heavy object behind them to block entry.

Chen Ge reached the end of the corridor. He had searched the entire first floor, but he had failed to locate the art room. To his surprise, the building, which only had four floors, came with an elevator. "Are there no stairs? Only an elevator?"

Everything else in the building was fine until the appearance of this elevator. Chen Ge did not dare to utilize it so recklessly. He stood about four meters away to study it first.

“This appears to be an elevator normally used to transport heavy objects. Does the lab need to have bigger objects transported up and down between the floors often? In that case, why didn’t they fix the stairs but install an elevator?”

As he got closer to the elevator, Chen Ge got an increasingly stronger whiff of a horrible stench. The smell came from inside the elevator. “Just what kind of things is this elevator normally used to transport?”

Chen Ge stood at the door for a long time. Actually, Chen Ge was reluctant to take the elevator because the booth was a confined space. Once the doors closed, he would lose the ability to escape. There was no way to run. “The art room is not on the first floor, and to get to the other floors, I have to use the elevator.”

There were two choices. One was to take the elevator and continue exploring the building, to search for the shadow that had escaped from Room 413. The other was to leave the night school directly and head to the western campus where the normal students should be gathered.

Chen Ge did not dare to wander about the night school anymore. Mr. Bai was waiting to ambush him at the dormitory; if he ran into either Bai Ling or Wang Xiaoming, he would be exposed, and then he would end up in a very dangerous situation.

“The frequency for the appearance of the nails is becoming shorter and shorter. I have to deal with this curse as soon as possible.” Chen Ge hid one of the nails in his palm and pressed the button to summon the elevator. The number on the panel above the door originally showed three, but after Chen Ge pressed the button, the number on the panel soon turned to two.

“This building does not possess a staircase. So, the only way to leave is to use the elevator. Before I called the elevator, it was parked at the third floor and not idling on the first floor. This means that at this moment, there is someone else inside this building, and he is on the third floor!” Chen Ge gripped the nail tightly. As the number on the panel slowly changed, he silently retreated to the middle of the corridor. He was worried that once the doors opened, something would rush out at him from inside the elevator.

The school was filled with danger at every step, and Chen Ge felt like he could never be too careful. The number on the panel soon turned to one. The elevator doors opened, and the strange stench in the air seemed to have thickened. Chen Ge, who stood several meters away, peered into the elevator booth with his Yin Yang Vision. The inside of the elevator was empty; there was nothing there.

“That thing hasn’t come down, so it is still on the third floor!” Chen Ge returned to the elevator. He started to search inside his bag. He wished to use the dental floss and artery clamp to make a simple tool. The plan was, when he took the elevator to the second floor, he would place those items between the two doors so that the elevator could not close fully. The elevator would not move to another floor, and he would not have to worry about the thing from the third floor coming to get him.

As a Haunted House boss, Chen Ge had personally designed many props in the past, and he finished the tool in mere seconds. “This should work.”

Chen Ge entered the elevator and pressed the button to go to the second floor. The button lit up.

The elevator booth was much more spacious than a normal elevator. Chen Ge felt very uncomfortable standing in there. "What is this elevator normally used for? What does it usually transport? Why is there such a horrible stink?"

After selecting the desired floor, the gray doors slowly closed, and the intensity of the stench inside the elevator almost doubled.

"The stench continues to thicken." Chen Ge subconsciously moved his hands to cover his nose. He looked at the screen above the control panel with a frown. He wished to leave the elevator as soon as possible, but once the doors completely closed, the button that represented the third floor on the panel suddenly lit up.

"Someone is going to the third floor?" After this temporary shock, Chen Ge's eyes gradually widened!

The light on the button would only light up because someone had pressed on the corresponding floor number from inside the elevator!

"There is something else inside this elevator!" The heavy stench rushed into his nostrils. Chen Ge did not turn around. He faced the elevator doors and kept himself frozen solid inside the elevator.

## **Chapter 776: Guardroom**

"There is another existence other than me inside the elevator. It was the one who pressed for the number three on the control panel." Thick stench rolled out from behind him. It was like an invisible hand, holding Chen Ge firmly in its palm. Chen Ge's breathing became difficult. The sound of a cart sliding suddenly echoed in the elevator that should have been empty except for Chen Ge.

The rough wheels ground against the metallic surface. It sounded like someone was pushing a small cart back and forth inside the elevator.

"I looked inside the elevator with my Yin Yang Vision, and there were no people or ghosts, much less a cart. Have I encountered something that even the Yin Yang Vision could not discern?"

The Yin Yang Vision came from the black phone, and it had been strengthened multiple times. One time, Zhang Ya had blown a breath of Yin energy into his eyes. This talent of his was very powerful, and there was next to no chance of it suddenly failing.

"What is standing behind me?" The simplest way to get to the bottom of the puzzle was to turn around. However, Chen Ge knew that curiosity killed the cat. He bit down on his lip and refused to budge. The stench continued to thicken. It was hard to tell where this smell originated from. It permeated around Chen Ge and kept trying to seep into his body. The elevator booth was rather spacious, but as the elevator moved upward, Chen Ge felt his surroundings closing in. Even his breathing became lighter and lighter.

"It feels like the space around me is crowded even though the elevator is supposedly empty." Chen Ge kept his head lowered and glanced at the control panel out of the corner of his eyes. He did not dare move his gaze aimlessly, afraid that he would see things that he should not.

"This is so slow..." Inside the enclosed space, there was no place to hide or run; all Chen Ge could do was wait. Under Chen Ge's gaze, the number above the control panel started to change, and the red one now turned into a two. It was only a few seconds, but it felt like years to Chen Ge. "The elevator doors are going to open soon!"

Every muscle in his body was pulled taut. Chen Ge was very worried that the elevator would refuse to open on the second floor and directly take him to the third floor. The elevator that was moving upward shivered slightly. Then a ringing sound came from the screen, and the elevator stopped. The silvery-gray doors slowly opened. At the same time, the stench rushed toward Chen Ge, forming a palpable wall that attempted to push Chen Ge deeper into the elevator.

Without waiting for the doors to open fully, Chen Ge waved his arms around and darted out of the elevator!

He slowed down after running several meters. He stood on the right side of the corridor and turned back to look. The doors were slowly closing. There was nothing inside the empty elevator booth. The stench also slowly dissipated as the doors closed.

"Why isn't there anything?" Moving his eyes about, Chen Ge caught a glimpse of something on the floor of the elevator booth. There was a stain there, and it had the shape of a human face. The doors closed fully, and the number on the panel above the doors turned from two to three.

"All of them appear to have moved onto the third floor." Chen Ge was still holding the item that he had crafted earlier. It was already soaked in sweat. "Thankfully, I did not drop this thing at the door. If the elevator was unable to move up, then the thing inside would have come after me instead."

Placing the item inside the bag, Chen Ge looked at the elevator with residual fear in his heart. "Perhaps it will be safer to jump out from the window when I need to leave later. After all, a second floor is not too high up anyway."

Before knowing what kind of existence he was dealing with, Chen Ge swore not to take the elevator again.

"Chen Ge, snap out of it. Follow the plan."

Narrowing his eyes, Chen Ge held the wall to begin his search for the art room.

Now that he was on the second floor, the anxiety in his heart only grew stronger. This whole building was different from any of the locales that he had visited in the past. He could sense that there was something wrong with the building, but he could not pinpoint what was wrong with it.

His footsteps were the only sound as he moved down the darkened corridor. After walking for several meters, Chen Ge discovered a very strange room.

"A guardroom? Why is there a guardroom here? Do they need someone to stay overnight to watch over this place? Is it because something valuable is stored here?"

Two questions surfaced in Chen Ge's mind. Why was there a guardroom in the building, and why was the room situated on the second floor, not the first floor? Did the watchmen on duty only have to look after the second floor?

“Could there be someone currently inside this room?” Chen Ge sidled over to the door. He glanced in through the window on the door. The room was sparsely furnished. There was only a bed, a wooden table, a chair, and a closet that could fit two adults. Placing his hands lightly on the doorknob, Chen Ge realized that the door was not locked. He pushed the door open and entered it.

“This room should contain information or at least the layout of this building. If I can confirm that the art room is not in this building, then I’ll jump out the window and leave immediately.” Chen Ge left the door open and walked to the closet. The closet was unusually large. Chen Ge was worried that someone was hiding inside, so the first thing that he checked was the closet. Holding a nail, Chen Ge slowly pulled the closet door open.

Several sets of blue work outfits sat inside. Probably because he accidentally nudged against them when he pulled open the door, the clothes were swinging slightly on their rails.

“There’s nothing wrong with the outfits, but how come all the places where the name of the school should be have been torn out?” Chen Ge inspected all the work clothes and realized that anything that could clarify the school’s identity like the name or school symbol had been removed.

“The school staff probably wear such clothes.” Chen Ge grabbed a random set and shoved it inside his bag. “When I go to the western campus, perhaps I can disguise myself as one of the workers.”

Pulling up the bag’s zipper, Chen Ge left the closet open as he turned to search the rest of the room. He opened the wooden drawer, which contained some inventory and transport records. All the product’s names and prices were represented by symbols, so Chen Ge could not understand it.

“Should I take the account book with me?” Chen Ge thought about it and decided against it. The account book was quite useless to him, and it might place him in danger.

There was nothing else in the room. Chen Ge closed the drawers and prepared to leave, but when he turned around, he realized that the cover of the bed was wrinkled, like someone had recently sat on it. “Was the cover already wrinkled when I came into the room?”

The longer Chen Ge stared at the bed, the more confused he became. “Normally, a bed should be placed next to the wall, so why is this bed placed in the middle of the room? It’s not adjacent to any wall...”

Standing next to the bed, Chen Ge could hear some soft whispering. He looked at the covers. Holding the nail, he slowly bent down. Reaching out to grab a corner of the cover, Chen Ge looked underneath the bed while half squatting.

The wooden bed was placed in the middle of the room, and there was nothing underneath it. Sighing in relief, Chen Ge was about to get up when he felt something touch his shoulder. He turned back to look and realized with a shock there was a pair of legs dangling around the head of the bed.

“Who is it?” Chen Ge jumped up immediately, but he found no one seated on the bed. Apparently, he could only see the legs if he was looking from the beneath the bed.

“I cannot stay here any longer.” Chen Ge grabbed his bag and prepared to leave. When he closed the door of the guardroom, he saw some red clothes fluttering inside the closet.

## **Chapter 777: Look Down**



*Why would there be a red outfit floating inside a blue closet that is supposed to be filled with blue outfits? Unless, of course, it was not clothes but a person wearing red clothes.*

When he entered the guardroom, Chen Ge had thought that the closet was very unusual. The first thing that he had done was inspect the closet, but his Yin Yang Vision did not spot anything unusual.

*Why can't my eyes see them?*

Chen Ge was reminded of the left eye that Chang Wenyu had brought out of the school.

*Perhaps only that eye can see the truth of this place, but unfortunately, that eye is currently with Chang Gu, and I have no idea where he is now.*

After the door was pushed open, Chang Gu had probably become stranded somewhere in this school, but the school in the man's eyes was probably very different from what Chen Ge was currently seeing.

*If I can find Chang Gu, it'll be much easier if we work together. I'll have more choices to work with as well.*

Chang Gu was the most suitable partner in the school for Chen Ge. Both of them came from outside the door, shared the same goal, and pursued the same outcome. However, the key issue was that Chen Ge was not sure if Chang Gu had the ability to survive in this world. This school was the lowest layer of hell for a normal person.

*He has the left eye and can see things that I can't. If he is careful, he should have a chance of survival.*

To find Chang Gu in such a large school compound was very difficult; Chen Ge would not waste his time to purposely do that. This was because he knew perfectly well that after he found Chang Gu, while he might gain Chang Gu's help, Chen Ge would also have to take on the responsibility of looking after Chang Gu.

When they were together, their choices would increase, but at the same time, the risk of getting exposed would also double. After leaving the guardroom, Chen Ge picked up his speed. He realized that he was being a tad too optimistic. Not only was the third floor of this lab building dangerous, the whole building was rife with danger—it was merely that the intensity of despair on the third floor was higher.

*I still have underestimated this place's danger level. Now my eyes are probably only seeing what the scenario wishes for me to see. There should be a blood red world behind the door, and this scenario should be no exception!*

The danger at this school was like an iceberg because the danger that Chen Ge had seen so far was merely the tip. As for how many things were still hidden in the ice under the surface of the water, Chen Ge had no idea.

Rushing down the corridor, Chen Ge walked past many labs that he had not heard of before. He did not stop to examine them. As long as the room's name had nothing to do with art, he would leave immediately and continue to move forward. He carried on until the other end of the corridor. Just as he was about to reach the end, Chen Ge suddenly saw a room name that caught his attention—Paint Storage Room.

*They need a whole room just to store the paint?*

Paint could be used in painting, but it could also be used to cover the surfaces of mirrors. When Chen Ge saw those few words, he did not rush into the room immediately.

*The notebook said that the first victim that died in Room 413 was an art student, so he probably came here when he was still alive.*

As Chen Ge grabbed the doorknob, his arm slowly applied force. However, before he even opened the door, a sharp pain came from his chest!

Gritting his teeth, Chen Ge forced the yelp down his throat. He pulled up his shirt to take a look and realized that a very deep hole had been made by a nail on his chest.

*It has started to aim for my heart! I cannot allow this curse to go on any further. If the nail decides to show up when I am running away, it will cause a life-threatening influence.*

When he peeled up his shirt, the nail dropped to the ground. There was no blood on it.

*It's getting more and more painful.*

Chen Ge bent over to pick up the nail. When his head was upside down and he prepared to reach out to grab the nail, his eyes glanced at the corridor behind him. Not far away from him, someone was following him with their head lowered.

Chen Ge jumped up instantly, and he threw the nail right at where the person was standing. However, when he straightened himself and turned back to look, the corridor behind him was empty—there was nothing there.

“What was that?” His body could feel something rush at him, but he could not see anything. There was no staircase leading off the corridor; there was only a dead-end. Chen Ge did not hesitate. He pulled open the door and ran into the paint storage room.

He locked the door. Chen Ge leaned against it to block it from opening. After a long time, there was no sound from outside the door, and only then did Chen Ge's heart slowly return to normal.

*Why is it that only when I bend over to pick stuff up will I see someone who also has his head lowered following me? Can he only look downward because he died from jumping off the building? Or is this a sign that the world that he's looking at is upside down from the one that I'm seeing?*

Chen Ge wished to lower his head to try to take another look, but he was afraid that once he did that, he would find himself inside a room filled with people, and then he would be in even greater danger.

*Not seeing anything will probably make me feel better.*

Chen Ge grabbed his bag with one hand and held the nails in another as he slowly walked around the room. All the racks and shelves in the room were covered with white cloth. There were several easels that sat in the corner of the room. One of them had a white sheet of paper fixed on it, and the paper had faded pencil scratches like someone was making the outline of a painting.

*This kind of paper is specifically used for oil painting, and the easel for oil painting is much heavier than a normal easel. This should be an incomplete painting.*

The sketch was very rough, and the content was rather strange. The theme of the painting was two inverted sickrooms. There was a bed placed in each of the inverted rooms, and in each of them laid a patient. Inside the two inverted sickrooms, there were two identical patients lying above two beds that were inverted, looking at each other. "What is this painting trying to express?"

Chen Ge could not figure it out. He moved the easel away to continue his exploration. He came upon several balls of paper inside the trashcan on the ground. He picked them up and spread them out. Every paper was painting the same scene.

Seeing the sickrooms inside the paintings, the confusion in Chen Ge's heart grew. "Why would they paint a sickroom? I don't think I've encountered a sickroom at this school, much less a patient."

Then, Chen Ge was reminded of a detail. When he first woke up and was returning to the dormitory with Wang Xiaoming, the two of them had walked down the corridor of the education block, and Chen Ge remembered seeing a lot of doctors' portraits lining the wall. Normally, a school would have pictures of their famous alums or great contributors to education showcased on the wall to inspire the students. Yet, this school had doctors' portraits, and none of the doctors were remotely famous.

*The education block is filled with doctors' portraits, and now, these pictures mysteriously appear at the paint storage room...*

Chen Ge slowly lifted his head, and a possibility crossed his mind.

*I entered the door in a mental asylum. Could these things be a kind of hint?*

Chen Ge was unsure of his thought, but he did not dare go verify it. After all, with one mistake, he would die.

*Doctors' portraits and paintings of sickrooms appear at the school, but why would the paintings of the sickrooms be inverted? The same patient lying in different beds looking at themselves...*

Chen Ge examined the paintings closer. He used his fingers to touch them and realized with a shock that the upper part of the painting had a rough touch to it, and the lower part was much smoother. It felt like someone had painted over the lower part, giving it a much smoother coat. This meant that these paintings could be hiding some kind of hint.

## **Chapter 778: Third Floor**

Painting paper was cheaper and easier to handle than painting canvas, which meant that new art students commonly used it. However, oil painting was a unique painting style in that students normally had to be relatively skilled before they were taught oil painting. By then, they would have outgrown painting paper. Thus, when Chen Ge saw the painting papers on the easel, he was confused, especially regarding the identity of the painter.

Chen Ge had studied toy design and manufacture in university. His minor was in classes that were related to art and art appreciation. He could tell from stylistic choices and skills employed in the simple sketches that the painter was not a newbie.

“He seems to be attempting to express something through multiple trials.” Chen Ge’s finger glided across the surface. The upper half was rough and the lower half smooth, giving him completely different sensations. “Why did he insist on oil painting? Is it because only oil painting can express what he wishes to express?”

Two inverted sickrooms and two patients with the same face. There was no problem with the theme, but when he used his finger to touch the painting itself, he noticed the problem.

“Since this is a painting, do I have to use paint on it to clarify the difference?”

With the intention to test it out, Chen Ge peeled back the white cloth from the racks and prepared to choose his paint. The rack was very large and the paints there were different from the ones sold at the shops. They were all stored inside glass jars that came without any labels or signs.

“Why... are there only red paint?” Looking at the rows of glass jars, Chen Ge was stumped. Various shades of red sat on the rack. Other than red, there were no other colors. As he twisted one of the jars open, a faded scent of blood drifted out. Chen Ge was certain that this was not a smell that should come out from a paint can.

“I’ll use this one.” Chen Ge picked up the brush on the easel, dripped it into the jar, and placed several strokes on the painting. With the first stroke, Chen Ge noticed the problem. There seemed to be an invisible line in the middle of the paper. The paint in the jar only managed to leave behind a faded line on the upper part of the painting, but it left a deep red gash that looked like an open wound on the lower half of the painting.

After several brushes, the painting took on a new look. The upper half looked like a sickroom that was installed with a light red lamp while the latter part seemed to have been soaked in blood. The patients in the painting were supposed to have the same expression, but the feeling that they gave off was completely different. One looked normal, if a little bit lost, but the other was covered in blood, and their expression was frozen in hatred and sin.

“Does this painting reflect the world behind the door, or is it trying to express something else?”

Several seconds later, Chen Ge witnessed something even stranger. On the unique piece of paper, the color of the upper half slowly faded while the bottom part was darkening. It felt as if the paint from the upper half was moving to the lower part.

“Isn’t this how the door works? Despair from real life will keep on seeping into the world behind the door. One cleanses itself, and the other sinks deeper into its despair.” The more he studied it, the more Chen Ge believed that this painting had everything to do with the world behind the door. He attempted to pull the painting out, but he was only halfway through when he heard knocking coming from outside the door.

“Has it come?” His sweat follicles immediately stood on end. Chen Ge abandoned the painting. He picked up one of the sketches on the ground and raced to stand next to the window. Before entering the

building, Chen Ge had noticed from outside that none of the windows were installed with anti-theft nets. Pulling back the thick gray curtains, Chen Ge pushed open the windows. He was about to jump out when he saw someone standing right at the bottom of the building.

The man had his head lowered. He was wearing a pair of leather shoes, on the thin side, and he did not look like he was in a good situation. "Mr. Bai?"

Mr. Bai, who was supposed to be waiting at male dormitory, had suddenly arrived there. He seemed to be searching for something. Chen Ge pulled his body back into the room. He quickly yanked the curtains shut with his heart still pounding. "I was almost discovered!"

Glancing through the gap in the curtains, Chen Ge saw Mr. Bai wandering around the building. He seemed to be hesitating over whether to enter the building or not. "If I jump from here, I'll fall right into his arms, what do I do now?"

BANG! BANG! BANG!

The knocking became more intense. Chen Ge was trapped between a rock and a hard place. His brain was quickly spinning, but the thing outside the door did not give him much time. The sound of the key going into the lock was like a knife piercing Chen Ge's chest. He did not have time to hesitate; the door would be unlocked the next second.

"There's no time to waste. I need to leave now."

Carrying his bag, Chen Ge stepped onto the edge of the windowsill. Since he could not jump down, he was going to seek his escape elsewhere. He adjusted the timing and moved to the windowsill of the room next door. "Hanging out here makes me an easy target. If Mr. Bai lifts his head, he will see me."

Holding onto the rim of the air-conditioning machine for dear life, Chen Ge did not have the chance to take a second breath before the door of the paint storage room was opened. The person inside noticed he open window immediately and rushed toward it!

The sound of footsteps approached. The person only needed to look outside the window, and they would stop Chen Ge!

"Third floor it is!" Gritting his teeth, Chen Ge gripped the edge of the third-floor windowsill with both hands. Without any safety gear, he climbed onto the third-floor windowsill. Just as he did so, a pale arm reached out from the paint storage room's window. Chen Ge perched on the windowsill and did not dare breathe too loudly.

Maintaining this posture required a great deal of energy. Once his grasp slipped, he would fall. Chen Ge tried to push the window. When he realized that it was not locked, he decided to jump through it. With no time to inspect the room, he first squatted down next to the window and observed Mr. Bai from the dark.

"Why is he still there?" The third floor was the most dangerous floor. The elevator was waiting at the third floor, and when he took the elevator earlier, the things inside the elevator had also headed to the third floor.

Staying in the corner, Chen Ge kept motionless. He decided to wait inside this room until Mr. Bai left before working out what to do next.

The night breeze wafted into the room, and the red curtain floated across his neck. Chen Ge was about to close the window when he remembered that the color of the curtain on the second floor was gray.

He paused for a second. Chen Ge retreated a few steps. After he moved away from the curtain, he opened the door and rushed out.

The corridor was dark with not one ray of light. All the doors leading to the labs on that floor were open. Some were creaking noisily. Lightly closing the door behind him, Chen Ge ran into the opposite room. He planned to jump out the window there. The room was on the opposite side of the building, so he would be out of Mr. Bai's line of sight.

### **Chapter 779: Fourth Floor**

The third floor was the most dangerous floor; almost everything in the elevator was trying to get to this floor. The seemingly empty corridor might be bustling with people if viewed from another angle.

"The curtains of this building are grayish black in color. The red thing that floated around my neck earlier was definitely not gray in color, so it was not the curtain. It was probably the monster from the second floor that had caught up to me."

A Red Specter was on a completely different level compared to a normal Specter. Therefore, when Chen Ge encountered a Red Specter, he did not hesitate to turn and run.

Without the aid of his workers, Chen Ge was practically defenseless before a Red Specter. He knew very well that he did not pose a threat to a Red Specter with the few nails that he was holding. "I didn't find anything off on the first floor, and there's a Red Specter on the second floor—I wonder what awaits me on the third floor."

The laboratory was only one of the many buildings at the school, but this four-story building was already proving too much for Chen Ge to handle.

"On the surface, the school maintains a normal appearance. It hasn't been that long since the lights got switched off, so the school hasn't arrived at its scariest point yet." Chen Ge was getting more confident that he was in the School of the Afterlife. The scary factor at this school was far beyond any of the other schools that he had been to in the past. "No matter what, I have to shake that Red Specter loose."

Chen Ge headed to the room on the opposite side of the corridor. He had just taken the first step when he felt something touch his shoulder. "Did I knock into someone?"

Squinting, Chen Ge used his Yin Yang Vision, but in his eyes, there was nothing in the corridor. "It was not my imagination; I definitely brushed against something earlier."

He took another step forward. This time, not only his shoulder, his arms and legs knocked into something. "This corridor isn't really filled with 'people', is it?"

Actually, that question was no longer that important to Chen Ge. He forced himself to 'squeeze' through the corridor. Just as he was about to reach the door of the opposite room, the door before him suddenly was closed by someone inside!

Without any warning, the door that had been left ajar was slammed shut. A chill surged through his body. Chen Ge reacted very quickly; he turned to run toward the next room. However, before he even took his first step, the next door was closed as well.

"The things inside the rooms don't want me to get close to them?"

At the same time, like they had received a signal, all the doors that were left open in the corridor were closed from within. A light stench drifted down the corridor and crawled up Chen Ge's nostrils. He had encountered a similar smell when he was inside the elevator. "It's this smell again."

Chen Ge leaned against the wall. The stench formed a palpable wall around him. It felt like 'dead bodies' were surrounding him.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Suddenly, knocking came from behind him. Chen Ge turned to look, and the knocking was coming from the room that he had just escaped from.

"It's the Red Specter knocking! I can't stay here any longer." The doorknob turned like the person inside was trying to open it. The Red Specter might appear at any moment. "Why is this thing chasing after me? Is it because I took its clothes?"

Chen Ge reached into his bag to take out the work outfit that he had 'borrowed' from the second floor guardroom.

Strangely enough, when he did so, the stench around him seemed to lighten. "Why would that happen?"

Chen Ge put one of his arms into the sleeve, and the stench dissipated even further. "I cannot see the monsters inside this building, but they carry a smell like the smell of decay around them. With the stench fading away, it can only mean that their interest in me has lowered. They have moved away from me."

Chen Ge's original plan had been to return the outfit to the Red Specter inside the guardroom, but that had changed.

Putting down the bag, Chen Ge put on the whole outfit. He tried to push open the door before him, but it felt like something was being used to block behind the door. Even though the doorknob could be turned, the door could not be opened. He tried several rooms before finally giving up. He grabbed his bag and rushed toward the elevator.

"The monsters on the third floor that give off the stench are not hostile toward me. The Red Specter from the second floor is still in the third-floor room. So, at this moment, the elevator should be safe." Chen Ge ran faster. He knew that his prediction might be wrong, but he had no other choice. Without his employee, without the black phone, he could not even contact the police to come and help him—he could only rely on himself.

In this despairing environment, one had to make the choice in the shortest available time, but the smallest mistake might cause death to become a type of luxury. Negative emotions corrupted his mind, and a curse would bring more pain to this physical body, but even under such stressful conditions, Chen Ge still forced himself to move toward his destination and goal.

“No wonder the Pen Spirit would rather commit suicide than come to this place.”

When he arrived at the elevator door, the number on the panel was three, and a smile appeared on Chen Ge’s face. Pressing the button for the elevator, the doors opened, and Chen Ge slipped into it. He started to press the button for the doors to close madly. The Red Specter did not exit the room. It seemed to be under some kind of limitation—it was not allowed to break anything inside this school. The gray doors slowly closed, and the elevator moved.

“When I reach the first floor, I’ll need to remain cautious of Mr. Bai. This scenario is impossibly difficult. Even for those supposedly hell-difficulty games on the market, you wouldn’t be chased by both monsters and ghosts at the same time.” Chen Ge was thinking about how to avoid Mr. Bai when he noticed that something was wrong. “Why is this elevator moving upward?”

Turning to look at the screen, in three seconds, the number on the monitor turned from three to four. “The fourth floor? But I pressed for the first floor! Someone on the fourth floor was calling for the elevator when I was using it?”

Without much time to think the situation through, the doors opened. Wearing the guard outfit, Chen Ge gripped the nails and hid in the corner. He was about to jump out should anyone come in. The doors opened fully. Beyond it was a dark corridor and nothing else.

“There’s no one?” A faded stench drifted in from the open door. Then a stench harsher than the one on third floor floated into the elevator booth. All the numbers on the elevator control panel lit up on their own. The stench in the booth reached an unbearable level, but the elevator doors refused to close. Several seconds later, the control panel screamed its warning, and the term ‘overload’ appeared on screen.

“I’m in the elevator alone, but the weight’s over the limit?” The beeping warning was particularly screechy inside the quiet building. Chen Ge could not imagine what was happening inside the elevator. After some hesitation, Chen Ge kept his head lowered and came out of the elevator with hasty steps. Once he left, the doors successfully closed, and the stench disappeared.

Standing inside the fourth floor’s corridor alone, Chen Ge’s emotion was complicated.

## **Chapter 780: Uniqueness of a Four-Star Scenario**

“Mr. Bai is on the first floor, the Red Specter is on the second floor, and a bunch of invisible monsters are on the third floor. What will be on the fourth floor?” Chen Ge stood in the corridor alone, not daring to breathe too loudly. His pupils narrowed to a point, and the muscles all over his body were tense. “Since I’m already here, might as well take a look around.”



Moving his feet, Chen Ge's body was slowly swallowed by the darkness. In the dim corridor, the only light source came from the elevator's panel. The red number was like a smiling face carved out by a knife. It could not heal, and the painful smile had to be maintained forever.

Creak...

After walking for a while, Chen Ge discovered another room related to art—the model storage room. The door of this room had been left ajar. It felt like someone was hiding behind the door, spying on the corridor. Chen Ge slowly pushed the wooden door open. The room that he was greeted by was rather strange.

There were no tools, only columns of white cloths that 'stood about'. It felt like people covered by white cloths were standing in the room.

"What are these?" Chen Ge approached one of them and pulled away the white cloth that was closest to him. He wished to know what was underneath the white cloth, but at the same time, he was afraid that the thing underneath might be dangerous. Therefore, he moved with extreme speed and caution. He was going to make the first move before the other party could react.

The white cloth fell away to reveal a skinned human model statuette.

"This doesn't look like it's made from cement or manmade rubber." Chen Ge frowned lightly. The white cloth was hiding a human model that had no skin. The muscles appeared tense, and the blood vessels coursed through the muscles. It looked so real, replicating every single horrifying detail. "Did the art students at this school use these models during their classes?"

He looked at the model, and the model stared back at him. The pair of eyes that were sunk inside blood vessels and bone glared lifelessly at Chen Ge. "The paint storage room has rows of red paint jars that give off a faint scent of blood, and the model storage room has a bunch of skinned human models. I cannot imagine what I will find inside the art room."

After replacing the white cloth, Chen Ge learned from his previous lesson; he did not stay in the room for long and left immediately. Just as he turned around, his eyes caught the inner part of the model storage room. A white cloth was lying on the ground, but the thing that it should have been covering was nowhere to be seen.

After leaving the model storage room, Chen Ge found the canvas storage room at the other side of the corridor. It was filled with half-processed or fully processed 'canvases'.

Touching them with his hands, Chen Ge found that the processed 'canvases' had a smooth surface, but he was unable to tell what kind of materials had been used to treat them. However, what caused Chen Ge alarm was that the 'canvases' had the same touch as human skin. It felt like he was touching other human beings. He did not stay there for long. Wiping his hands on the working outfit, Chen Ge left the room.

"Just what kind of experiments are conducted here?" Chen Ge continued to move forward and finally found the art room at the end of the corridor. "As I expected."

With the discovery of the art room, part of Chen Ge's goal of entering the laboratory had been accomplished. He walked hastily forward to push on the door. The wooden door fell open with his push. There were thirteen easels in the rooms, and various paintings hung on the wall.

At first glance, it looked like a normal art room, but once one looked closer, one would notice the endless horrors hidden inside this room. The paintings on the walls were all curious and strange. There were human faces, twisted souls, human portraits, and convulsing bodies; the content was all different, but all the humans or 'ghosts' in the paintings were inverted.

The backgrounds of the paintings were upright, but the people were inverted. It was as if they lived in a different world, and the paintings were merely capturing their shadows. The paintings that ran down the wall gave Chen Ge an immense impact. As he walked into the room, his gaze was pulled naturally toward them, and it felt like he was walking into a nightmare.

He walked to the center of the room. Thirteen incomplete paintings sat on the thirteen easels. Among them, three of the paintings greatly attracted Chen Ge's attention. The first painting was of two inverted doors. One was bloody red, and the other looked normal. These two doors were wide open, and inside the doors stood two painters holding a paintbrush. He lowered his head to look at his inverted self, and it appeared like he was thinking about something in his mind.

The name of the painting was 'Me Inside the Door'. A row of description was scrawled underneath it in blood—"Overflowing despair will open the door, then if I remove the despair, will the world behind the door return to normal?"

The painting was the only painting in the room that was named. The painter obviously knew about the door's existence. The second painting that caught Chen Ge's attention was quite scary; it was a painting of that very room.

On the upper part of the painting, there were thirteen painters seated before their easels painting. However, the lower part of the painting was completely blood red. The thirteen painters died in different ways; their bodies collapsed on their seats. The most suffocating discovery was the painters were painting their own death in the upper part of the painting.

"These painters seem to know their ending beforehand, but they still insist on continuing their painting. Is it because they knew the ending was inevitable?"

The third painting that drew Chen Ge's attention was the least completed. The upper part of the painting showed a child standing before a mirror. The world beside him was totally normal, but the surface of the mirror was dripping with redness. The boy in the mirror was covered in blood and was tapping heavily against the surface.

The lower part of the painting was still of that boy. The world around him was red, and the only exception was the mirror before him. It was clean and shining. The boy who was covered in blood slammed on the mirror heavily like he wished to strangle the uninjured version of himself on the other side of the mirror.

"I saw blood red mirrors in the maintenance room. Do the mirrors in this school have the same purpose as a door? No wait, I seem to have forgotten an important detail!" Chen Ge knew that a four-star

scenario would be completely different from all the other scenarios that he had attempted in the past. Therefore, his experience from before could no longer be applied.

“Doors and mirrors, the blood doors and bloody mirrors behind the doors...” Various clues connected in his mind, and they led him to a brazen conjecture.

“Perhaps I should bring this painting with me.” There was another reason that Chen Ge valued this painting so much. The spot where the painter would leave their name read... Lin Sisi.

This painting might be created by the real Lin Sisi, and solving the mystery around Lin Sisi might help Chen Ge understand the world behind the door. In fact, that might be the main objective that Chen Ge had given himself.

Chen Ge’s hand reached toward the painting. Before his finger even touched it, a giant change happened to the art room. Droplets of liquid fell on the top of his head. Chen Ge used his hand to touch it and realized that it was not water but blood.

The air became humid, and the heavy stench made its silent return. Blood started to leak out from the walls, and deepening footprints surfaced on the ground.

The normal world appeared to be overlapping with the other blood world. All the paintings inside the art room became distorted. A black shadow suddenly leaped out from one of the paintings and headed right for the door.

The shadow felt strangely familiar to Chen Ge. He immediately stopped what he was doing, grabbed the nails, and rushed toward the exit.